

ANSLEM CLACKSON.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 453.]

MARCH 23, 1860.

Mr. FENTON, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT.

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom were referred the petition and accompanying papers of Anslem Clackson, of Missouri, report :*

That the said Anslem Clackson was 1st sergeant in the company of Captain James Clackson, of the 3d regiment of Missouri volunteers, during the Mexican war, the regiment being commanded by Colonel John Ralls ; that he was ordered by his superior officer, on the 30th of October, 1847, to proceed from Santa Fé to the State of Missouri, to raise recruits for the regiment; that whilst on his journey from Santa Fé, and whilst on the headwaters of the Arkansas river, the weather became intensely cold, so much so that a large number of the animals belonging to the company with him were frozen to death, and that by reason of exposure at that time he was attacked with rheumatism, from which he has never recovered.

S. B. Bowles and S. M. Sproul, of Dade county, Missouri, who are certified to be respectable physicians in their profession, swear that he is wholly disabled by reason of rheumatism.

James J. Clackson, who was captain of the company under whom Anslem Clackson served, swears that he knew the petitioner intimately for years before he entered the service ; that he was a hale, hearty man ; that he so continued until he left Santa Fé, by order of Colonel Ralls for the purpose of raising recruits in Missouri ; that he did not see the petitioner for some months after his return to Missouri, but when he did see him he was disabled by reason of the rheumatism contracted whilst on his return from Santa Fé, as aforesaid.

James W. Cottner, who was lieutenant in the same company, swears to the statements made by Captain James J. Clackson.

The only ground for the rejection of the claim at the Pension office was that the officers did not swear to the extreme cold, of which they could have had no knowledge. The Hon. John S. Phelps, a member of this House, certifies to the high character of the witnesses. Your committee believe the case to be made out, and therefore report a bill. A bill was introduced at a former session of Congress for his relief, but failed, for want of time, to become a law.

